

A meeting of the Board of Election Commissioners of St. Louis County was held at its office located at 725 Northwest Plaza Drive, St. Ann, Missouri, Tuesday, December 19, 2017.

Present at the meeting were:

Sharon Buchanan-McClure	Chair
Trudi McCollum Foushee	Secretary
Matthew Potter	Commissioner
Peggy Barnhart	Commissioner
Darold Crotzer	Attorney
Eric Fey	Director
Rick Stream	Director
Christian Tolbert	Deputy Director
Julie Leicht	Deputy Director

Chair Buchanan-McClure called the meeting to order and a roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

No one signed up to speak at the public forum. The minutes from the November meeting were approved as corrected.

Chair Buchanan-McClure called for the Directors' Reports. Director Stream reported on the upcoming February 6 election. This election involves 2,020 voters in two precincts and one polling place, for the 97th State House seat. Most of the district is in Jefferson County. Absentee voting begins on December 26. Director Stream then reported to the Board that the St. Louis County Council voted on the budget for 2018. The Board of Elections returned half of a million dollars to the County from this year's budget, proving that we spent wisely and frugally. The Council restored \$123,000 previously cut from our budget while \$31 million was cut from the County overall. Chair Buchanan-McClure emphasized the excellent track record of the Directors thus far. Director Stream acknowledged that the staff has taken on new job duties and has learned new technologies.

Director Fey reported that the biennial voter canvass is still ongoing. Over 700,000 pieces of mail have been sent to voters, and so far, nearly 30,000 have been returned to us by the post office, which the employees process manually. Of the 30,000, 8,241 were returned by voters with address or name changes. This canvass should be complete by the end of the year. Director Fey also explained some of the pre-filed legislation that involves elections. Senator Hegeman, a former County Clerk, pre-filed SB592 which provides for the state paying its share of primary and general elections. If a political subdivision or a special district holds an election on the same day, then the state and the districts would share the costs proportionately. This legislation also changes the deadline for court changes to the ballot from the 6th Tuesday prior to an election to the 8th Tuesday prior.

Deputy Director Leicht announced the creation of the Recruitment Committee involving several members of the staff. Because of workers being unable to travel to the office for class, going into retirement, or not having technical skills, this committee is responsible for recruiting new poll workers who will be able to use the new poll pads and other voting equipment with ease. The committee works alongside the Judges department in order to interview, hire, and staff the workers. The goal of the committee is to recruit 10% of the workforce in each election, more specifically North County Republicans and West County Democrats. The Judges department has sent out a canvass to all their current workers to get a glimpse at how many of our current poll workers plan on returning to work, and who will not be working for us anymore. Deputy Director Leicht also announced that the staff collected over \$600 for the family of Mel Rollins, a Board of Elections employee who passed away this past summer. One of our employees decorated his grave at the Jefferson Barracks Cemetery for Christmas. The Board expressed appreciation to the staff for their thoughtfulness.

Deputy Director Tolbert reported that all of the equipment has undergone preventative maintenance by the Warehouse department. They are in the process of updating all of the poll pads with iOS software. The site surveys are over halfway complete, and the polling places are compatible with our Wi-Fi hotspots. Deputy Director Tolbert also announced that the Board of Elections was able to purchase Personal Electronic Ballots (PEBs) from a county in Florida. While this equipment is usually priced at \$70 a piece, the Directors were able to buy them for \$2 a piece. Director Fey added that while the budget may not allow for new machines and other equipment, it is a goal to try and purchase lightly-used equipment to keep up with our aging machines.

Under Old Business, Director Stream reported the details of a meeting the Directors had with the office property manager. First, the property manager agreed to signage outside of the building for easier access. Second, they discussed the issue of people protesting on private property. It was made clear that they will not allow protesting on their property. Finally, the property manager is committed to installing only a "first-class" facility for our generator, which would be placed next to Charter's generator; however, this is still in negotiation. Chair Buchanan-McClure made a motion to pursue options in obtaining appropriate housing for the generator and Secretary Foushee seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the votes were as follows: Chair Buchanan-McClure, aye; Secretary Foushee, aye; Commissioner Potter, aye; Commissioner Barnhart, aye.

There was nothing to discuss under New Business.

Under Financial, Director Stream reiterated that we have been very frugal.

There was nothing to discuss under Personnel in the open meeting.

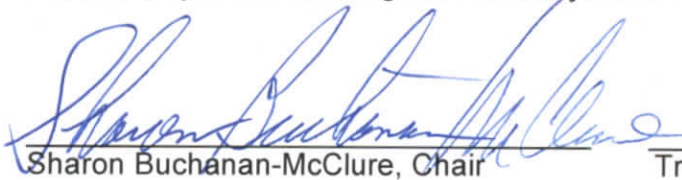
There was nothing to discuss under Legal.

Secretary Foushee moved that the meeting be closed pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1),(2) and (3) to discuss litigation, real estate, and personnel issues and Commissioner

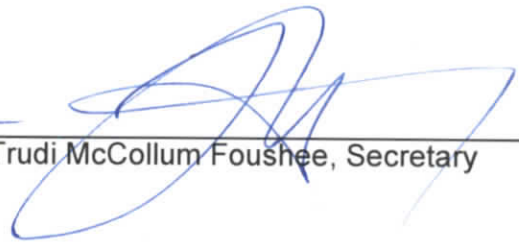
Barnhart seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the votes were as follows: Chair Buchanan-McClure, aye; Secretary Foushee, aye; Commissioner Potter, aye; Commissioner Barnhart, aye.

After ending the closed portion of the meeting, Chair Buchanan McClure moved, and Secretary Foushee seconded, the motion to accept the Directors' proposal for merit raises for the employees, based on the return of \$500,000 to the County from our 2017 budget and with consideration of the County Council with a review of the Directors' salary subject to a performance review at a later date.

Secretary Foushee moved that the Board adjourn and Commissioner Potter seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and the votes were as follows: Chair Buchanan-McClure, aye; Secretary Foushee, aye; Commissioner Potter, aye; Commissioner Barnhart, aye. The meeting was then adjourned.



Sharon Buchanan-McClure, Chair



Trudi McCollum Foushee, Secretary